

THE STAR,

and North Carolina Gazette.

Published weekly, by

BELL & LAWRENCE.

Subscription, three dollars per annum—No paper to be sent without at least \$1 50 in payment—on, and no paper discontinued, but at the option of the Editors, unless all arrears are paid. Advertisements, not exceeding 25 lines, inserted three times for one dollar, and twenty-five cents for each continuance—All letters to the Editors must be post paid.

From the National Journal.

Died, at Washington City, on the 23d ultimo, in his sixtieth year, PUSH-MAT-TA-HA, one of the Choctaw Delegation, now at Washington, on business with the Government. The best attendance, and the best medical skill were employed to save him, but in vain. He died of the croup, and was ill but a day. He was buried on Saturday, with military honors, which were performed by the Marine Corps, by directions of the Hon. the Secretary of the Navy, assisted by Captain Mauro's and Captain Dyer's companies of volunteers: Christian ceremonies by the Rev. Mr. Hawley. The procession was large (at least two thousand) and highly respectable. General Jackson, who knew and appreciated the services of this Chief, paid his last respects to his memory, as did also many members of both Houses of Congress, and members of the government, some of whom attended him, though so distant, to the grave.

Push-ma-ta-ha was an extraordinary man. He was one of the three great Chiefs of his nation, and had attained that distinction by his powers of oratory and military prowess. Nature had impressed him with the stamp of greatness—and he was himself even in death. "I am told," said he, (in his native tongue, for he spoke no English,) "that I am better. It is a mistake. I shall die—and at about 12 o'clock to-night. It has always been in my heart that I should die in the land of strangers." He then gave some directions respecting his family, and the disposition of his affairs, and concluded by saying—"When I am dead, let the big guns be fired over me." His request was respected. He had won this high distinction by his uniform attachment to the people and cause of the United States, and by the scars he had received, and the blood he had shed in seconding our power on our borders, when it was exerted to save our citizens from the hostile of his own race, and the combined hostility of the enemy with them, and especially in the late war. He even foiled Tecumseh—though not with the sword. He saw his opportunity and seized it; he knew his means, & he employed them. He triumphed over that master-spirit, broke the spell in which he was attempting to bind his nation, and turned the sword of his people upon our enemies. It was by the powers of his oratory. Every arm fell when Push-ma-ta-ha had spoke. Every hostile spirit was hushed—and the Choctaw nation, powerful as it was, were united to us. He put himself at the head of 500 warriors, and entered our service—was in twenty four battles—served under the eye of General Jackson in his Pensacola campaign, and won the admiration of even this veteran. Push-ma-ta-ha remembered his leader in death. "I want," says he, "to see General Jackson." But it was late at night, and the knowledge of this wish was not conveyed. To the writer of this hasty notice, General Jackson said, when informed of it the next day—"I deeply regret it. Had it been midnight, I would have risen and gone to see him."

Push-ma-ta-ha, though uneducated himself, saw the necessity of improving his people—and demonstrated his attachment to civilization, by giving \$2,000 of his annuity, for 15 years, towards the support of the school system. Push-ma-ta-ha sleeps with the great and the venerated of our land. He lies in the same enclosure with our Clintons and Gerrys. When the tidings of his death shall reach his people, they will be like the fall of the noblest tree in their forest, which had long furnished them with shelter and shade—every ear will listen to the echoes occasioned by its fall, and all hearts will mourn the mighty ruin. But let them remember, "though he died in the land of strangers," that he was respected and treated like a friend, and that "the big guns" were fired over him, not barely in compliance with his last request, but out of respect for his services, & to show that his attachment to our people, and his efforts in our cause, were not forgotten.

It was the boast of Push-ma-ta-ha that "his hand was white." It has never been stained," said he, "by the blood of Americans. But it is red with

that of their enemies." I am an American," said he, the other day, to the writer of this. "My skin is red—but my heart is white." He was asked about ten weeks ago, how he was? He threw his eyes upward, and with a most devotional and grateful look, spoke—"He says," said his interpreter, "he feels that the great Spirit loves him today. He is so well that he feels happy."

On his way to Washington he met an old acquaintance going to the land of his achievements in war.—"You have come in a path, so far," said Push-ma-ta-ha, "which is straight, and the green grass and flowers border it. The trees are all leafy, and the birds sing amidst their branches. You are going where the paths are all crooked, and where the land is desolate, and white with the bones of my enemies."

Did time permit, even with the barren resources which are at hand, it would be easy to illustrate the extraordinary sayings of this man. He was of nature's construction in intellect and prowess. And when she turns off a favorite, as in Shakspeare, art only fetters, and its adventitious aids are spurned as beneath the attention of the mind which is rich and powerful in its own resources.

CON. RESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, Dec. 27.

The resolution offered by Mr. Archer, calling for information in relation to the late transaction at Porto Rico, was taken up and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Long, of N. C. Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reducing the duty on the importation of salt.

On motion of Mr. J. T. Johnson, of Kentucky, it was Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be directed to consider the expediency of abolishing imprisonment for debt, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

NIAGARA SUFFERERS.

The House then went into committee of the whole, on the bill "further to amend the act authorizing the payment for property lost, captured, or destroyed by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States, and for other purposes;" and, after some time spent therein, the committee reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Tuesday, Dec. 28.

Mr. J. T. Johnson, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported a bill "to reduce into one the several acts establishing and regulating the Post Office Department;" which was twice read and committed.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

Mr. Stewart, of Pennsylvania, said, that, at the last session, he had submitted a proposition, which had for its object the creation of a permanent fund for the purposes of internal improvement; but, owing to the press of other important business, it was not then disposed of. He now rose to renew that proposition, and offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to report a bill pledging the proceeds of the sales of the Public Lands and the dividends of the United States' Bank Stock, as a permanent fund for the purposes of internal improvement, to be distributed among the several States according to the ratio of representation, and expended on objects to be designated by Congress within or bordering on the States respectively. The said fund, with the interest thereon accruing, to be vested, annually, in United States' or other productive Stocks, until the same shall be required to carry into effect the objects of its appropriation.

This resolution was ordered to lie on the table, and be printed.

On motion of Mr. Trimble,

Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to inquire whether any, and, if any, what provision ought to be made by law to discriminate between importations made by citizens of the United States and others, and whether it is or is not expedient to repeal all laws allowing credits for duties upon merchandise imported by aliens, or on foreign account.

On motion of Mr. Wickliffe, Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of exempting, for a limited time, from taxation, by the territorial governments, the military bounty lands which have been patented to, and not sold by, the original claimants, or their heirs.

NIAGARA SUFFERERS.

The House went into committee of the whole on the bill "further to amend the act authorizing the payment for property lost, captured, or destroyed by the enemy, while in the military service of the United States, and for other purposes;" and, after considerable debate, the committee rose, and obtained leave to sit again.

Wednesday Dec. 29.

NIAGARA SUFFERERS.

The House again resolved itself into committee of the whole on the bill

further to amend the act authorizing payment for property lost, captured, or destroyed by the enemy, in the late war with Great Britain, and for other purposes.

After considerable debate, the committee rose, and obtained leave to sit again.

THE AFFAIR OF FAXARDO.

The following Message was received from the President of the United States: To the Speaker of the H. of Representatives:

In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives of 27th inst. requesting information explanatory of the character and objects of the visit of the naval officer of the United States commanding in the West Indies, to the town of Faxardo, in the Island of Porto Rico, on the day of November last, I herewith transmit a report of the Secretary of the Navy, with a letter from Com. Porter, which contains all the information in possession of the Executive, on the subject. Deeming the transactions adverted to of high importance, an order has been sent to Com. Porter to repair hither, without delay, that all the circumstances connected therewith may be fully investigated.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, 28th Dec. 1824.

The Message was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Thursday, Dec. 30.

On motion of Mr. Archer, it was Resolved, That a committee be appointed to unite with a committee from the Senate in announcing to Gen. Lafayette the passage of the act concerning him, which has just been approved, and to express to him the respectful request and confidence of the two Houses of Congress that he will add his acceptance of the testimony of public gratitude extended to him by this act to the many and signal proofs which he has afforded of his esteem for the United States.

Which resolution was accordingly sent to the Senate, and adopted by that House.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Mr. Strong, of N. York, then rose, and said, it would be recollected by the House, that the gentleman from South Carolina, (Mr. McDuffie,) had given notice, that, on Monday, the 3d of January, he would call up the amendment proposed by him at the last session, to the Constitution of the U. S. and that the gentleman from Louisiana, (Mr. Livingston,) had given notice that, when that amendment was taken up, he should call up an amendment to it, proposed by himself at the last session.

Mr. Strong now wished to propose an amendment to the amendment of the gentleman from Louisiana; the effect of which would be, that, in the final vote for President of the United States in this House, the members, instead of voting collectively by states, should vote individually, as on any other question. Wishing to bring such a measure into discussion, he moved for the printing of all three amendments—(that of Mr. McDuffie, that of Mr. Livingston, and his own,) giving notice that he should move for the consideration of the whole subject on Monday next.

The motion for printing was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Cazlay, of Ohio, it was

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the necessity and expediency of providing, by severe legal penalties, against every loan or disbursement of the public money not authorized by Congress.

The House then proceeded to the orders of the day, and went into committee of the whole, on the bill for the relief of the Niagara Sufferers; and, after a considerable time spent therein, the committee rose, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Georgetown, (S. C.) Dec. 21.

On Friday evening, a few gentlemen, headed by Col. Huggins, went down the bay in pursuit of a gang of runaway negroes, who were reported to be committing depredations in this neighborhood. As the wind blew with great violence, they were obliged to stop that day at Mr. Fraser's plantation. On Saturday four other gentlemen followed and joined the first party. They divided into three boats, succeeded in burning two large camps at some distance from each other, took two guns, some fishing apparatus, and other articles which had been in possession of the gang, and after a long chase, secured one of their number, a fellow by the name of Newton, the property of Mr. R. N. Magill.

The three camps which have been destroyed, consisted of snug little habitations, and could have accommodated twenty men. At each of them there was a well. At one they had left chaff and straw enough to show that they must lately have pounded out at least fifty bushels of rice; at another place, there was a good stack yard and threshing place. The relics of ducks, turkeys, vegetables and beef which were

found, proved that they had been abundantly provided with delicacies as well as necessaries. At one of the camps, Mr. Fraser found some fine cabbages which had been recently cut from his garden. After cutting the cabbages, that no mistake might arise, they crossed each stock with a knife.

It appears from the information which has been received from Newton, and one or two negroes, who have been examined on suspicion of holding communion with them, that they have carried on an extensive traffic in the town, sometimes through agents and occasionally themselves. These boats have usually landed at the fort, and they often amused themselves with promenades through the streets, unmolested by police or patrols.

The places of retreat were selected with great judgment. They are situated on small elevations, surrounded by extensive arrears of marsh. By climbing a high tree on each of them, a complete view of the bay, creeks and surrounding island, was presented to the spectator, while he could remain concealed by the foliage.

No correct account of the number of the gang can be obtained. Reports are various and contradictory. That they have been continually aided and held constant communication with many of the negroes of this town, there is conclusive evidence. Their leader is Will, the brother of Newton. He has sent a message to Mr. Thompson and Mr. Fraser, that if he ever should meet them, he will kill them. The witness states that he has twice taken deliberate aim at Mr. Thompson, while passing through the woods on horse back, but fortunately his musket snapped. Proper measures have been taken to cut off his retreat; and as the pursuit still continues, it is probable that the whole band will within a day or two be secured. Had there not been great remissness in the execution of the patrol laws, they could not have escaped so long.—Gazette.

\* One mentioned in a communication in the last Gazette.

General Jackson's warm friends are among all classes of people, from the most exalted to the most humble; from most refined to the most savage—one of the Choctaw Chiefs at present here, is a most enthusiastic admirer of Jackson, and when his name was mentioned at the Theatre the other evening, he exclaimed in ecstasy, "Good—Jackson, Good."—He says Jackson's friends are like corn—corn grows every where, so Jackson's friends are every where.—This rude but noble old Choctaw Chief seems to manifest the greatest pleasure in talking of Jackson, who he maintains is next to the Great Spirit—and what is strange for an Indian to admit, is that Jackson is greater than himself—he places his fore and middle finger together, and says the longest is Gen. Jackson, and the next, Push-la-mat-ta-ha.—Georgetown D. C. Metropolitan.

A Dreadful Situation.—Much sensibility is expressed as to the distressing and miserable situation in which the Governor of Kentucky is placed by the conduct of his son. He is committed to prison, and, under violent presumptions, accused of MURDER in the first degree. On looking at the Constitution of Kentucky, we find that the Governor of that State is entrusted with the sole power, "to grant reprieves and pardons except in cases of impeachment." How deplorable will be the situation of the Father, if the Governor shall be called upon to sign the death warrant of his son. Without the public, powerful and pressing consideration which moved Brutus, Gov. Desha is likely to be placed in nearly the same situation. He cannot now resign, because to resign would be to prejudice his son's guilt, by presuming his conviction, which is the only thing which can compel him to act upon the case. His situation is indeed heart rending and most pitiable. (Phil. Press.)

Mildness of English Laws.—The following article is taken from the Suffolk Chronicle: "Letitia Hewitt, of Sudbourn, single woman, was convicted before Charles Brooke, clerk, and Wm. Carthew, Esq. at the Sessions hall, Woodbridge, on Wednesday, upon the oath of two witnesses, of having spoiled four pheasant's eggs, in the nest; and being unable to pay the penalty of 4s. being 20s. for each egg, was committed to Woodbridge Bridewell for three months, unless the penalty should be sooner paid. Ann Chatten, of Sudbourn, single woman, was also convicted before the same magistrates, upon the oath of the same witnesses, of having spoiled five partridge's eggs, and being unable to pay the penalty of 5s. being 20s. for each egg, was also committed to Woodbridge Bridewell

for three months, unless the penalty be sooner paid." Three months! A pretty good sousing for the ladies upon four pheasant's eggs! I should like to know whom the eggs belonged to. Col. Bell's Register.

Extraordinary Courage.—Henry, Earl of Holsatia, survived from, by reason of his extraordinary strength and courage, being a favorite to Edward III. King of England, was hated by his courtiers, who, taking advantage of the King's absence, prevailed with the Queen to make trial whether he was nobly decended, by exposing him to a lion, alleging the lion would not hurt him, if he was truly noble. For this purpose a lion was tutored loose in the morning, in the base court of the castle, to take the air, met with the lion, roaring and frizzling his shaggy crest, but the Earl, being undaunted, said in a harsh and angry tone, "stand, you dog!" at which the lion crouched at his feet and the earl took him by the neck, and put him into his den, leaving his night cap upon the lion's back, and so walked off unconcerned; & looking up to the windows where the courtiers were, said, "Now let the proudest of you all, that boast so much of your noble birth, go and fetch my night cap, and take it for his pains;" but they shamefully pulled in their heads and made no reply.

A late Bellows Falls paper has the following article: "A few evenings since, an inhabitant of a neighboring village, returning from an excursion to this town, and happening to be *enno Cihogue reanatus*, (in English, with his skin full of gun,) fell fast asleep in his chaise. While enjoying nature's sweet balm, his horse, attempting to turn, backed the wheels off the side of a bridge 20 feet high. But mark how fortune favours the sleeper! The chaise lodged in the top of a young hemlock that stood by the bridge; the faithful steed maintained his ground; and our hero's slumbers were not disturbed till morning, when he clambered carefully out of his lofty coach, and called the nearest neighbours to help him get his chaise out of the tree top."

From the Huntsville Alabamian.

A skull re-animated.—A few nights since a novel circumstance occurred in a Surgeon's office of this village, to the no small annoyance of the occupant, a student who usually slept there. While in that delightful reverie between sleeping and awaking he was, on a sudden, aroused by a rattling among the "dry bones," of some anatomical preparations, and ere he had time to recover from the surprise of momentary conjecture, the door of the cabinet was burst open, and in rushed—do not start reader! not "a man without a head," but what is still more strange, a head without a man. After performing a few evolutions, the skull, meanwhile, "grinning horribly a ghastly smile," assumed an erect position near the centre of the room. Boldly facing the astonished host, the unwitted guest tremulously made slow advances as if restless to impart to him the "evidence of things not seen;" or some other secret equally mysterious. By this time the host had collected his reasoning faculties, and having settled his disbelief in *Genetooism* or a resurrection of the dead before the day of Judgment, calmly began to philosophize and immediately proceeded to examine the "animating principle," when to his astonishment he found, instead of *tracration* or *gubatum*, that the skull was actually re-animated by no other than, both the soul and body of a mouse!

Indian Jurisprudence.—The Cherokees, it is said, have established something like a judiciary system, and introduced into their society many of the laws and usages of civilization. As a specimen of the manner in which they dispense justice in cases of trivial import, we relate the following anecdote, said to be authentic.—Cherain Int.

"An Indian assaulted another, of which regular information was made. The Judge ordered the Sheriff to bring the parties before him. The sheriff went in pursuit of them, but returned without them. 'Where are your prisoners,' said the judge. 'I caught them,' replied the sheriff. 'What did you do with them?' 'I gave the defendant fifteen lashes.' 'What did you do with the plaintiff?' 'Gave him fifteen, too.' 'What with the informer, or witness?' 'Why, I gave him twenty-five lashes; for had he held his tongue, there would have been none of this fuss and trouble.' It would be well if all the dispensations of justice could be equally and promptly administered."